

8 December 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

Enforced Partial School Closure: Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic

The health, safety and welfare of our students, staff, families and the community are at the forefront of the decisions we make as a school. In light of the current public health emergency, it is with regret that we have had to make the decision to carry out an enforced partial closure to Year 9. At this moment in time, exceptional levels of staff absence means that we cannot safely accommodate all students in the academy. **We have made the decision to close to Year 9 from Thursday 9 December 2021 until Thursday 16 December 2021 (inclusive).** Should staffing levels improve, and it becomes safe to do so, we will alert you that we are reopening to Year 9 sooner.

The academy remains open as normal to all other year groups.

Home Learning

We have previously communicated with you to explain what the process is for setting work for students who are working from home and students are well aware of this process. Students should access their lessons as normal, at the normal time, via Google Classroom. Some lessons will be live, some pre-recorded and some will have work posted for students to complete. In order for parents/carers to support their children at home, we have created a Home Learning webpage which provides guidance on how to access Google Classroom. The link for this will be provided by text to parents.

If your child has any issues regarding accessing their lessons, please do not hesitate to contact the academy, either by phone or through the 'Contact us' page on the academy website.

Because of staff absence, it is possible that some lessons will not be provided through Google Classroom. In this case, a lot of additional work is also available to all students via:

- Sparx Maths <https://sparx.co.uk/>
- Oak National Academy <https://www.thenational.academy/>
- BBC Bitesize <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize>
- <https://science.outwood.com/>
- <https://sites.google.com/outwood.com/maths/home>

Free School Meal Parcel

We have support available for families of students in receipt of free school meals in the form of a food parcel. Please let us know, by contacting the school via phone or the 'Contact us' page on the academy website, if you would like to collect one of these.

As I'm sure you will understand, the decision to close the academy to even one year group is something which I have not done lightly. Thank you for your understanding and support during this difficult time.

Yours faithfully

Alison McQueen
Principal